

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 IOE-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 T-03

OMB-01 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 /138 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6884

INFO USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 304

S E C R E T PANAMA 1476

EO. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNSC PN

SUBJ: UNSC MEETING IN PANAMA

FROM USDEL PANAMA

1. IN MAR 19 MORNING MEETING WITH US PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY TORRIJOS PREVIOUS DAY, TACK AND BOYD PUT THEIR BEST MANNERS FORWARD. BOYD INITIATED MEETING WITH ASSERTION PANAMANIAN ARE FLEXIBLE AND VERY MUCH WANT SC MEETINGS TO HAVE CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME. HE RECALLED THAT PREVIOUS DAY'S MEETING BETWEEN SCALI AND TORRIJOS HAD BEEN FRIENDLY AND SINCERE AND SOUGHT TO GIVE IMPRESSION TORRIJOS HAD DIRECTED HIS REPRESENTATIVES TO WORK OUT ACCEPTABLE RES WITH US.

2. BOYD THEN SAID PANAMA HAD ALREADY TABLED DRAFT CANAL ZONE RES AND THAT TORRIJOS HAD APPROVED ITS USE AS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR NEGOTS AD REFERENDUM. SCALI EXPLAINED THAT FIRST DRAFT RES UNACCEPTABLE TO US BECAUSE IT PUTS UN INTO BILATERAL PICTURE. THIS CONCERN IS ONE OF PRINCIPLE AND TRANSCENDS EVEN OUR DEEP INTEREST IN RESOLVING ISSUES WITH PANAMA. SCALI SAID US DEL AWAITING FULL WASHINGTON COMMENTS BUT IT
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WAS CLEAR US HAS PROBLEM WITH INCLUSION SUB- PARAS A THROUGH F OF PREAMBULAR PARA 2, AS WELL AS FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIONS TO TABLED DRAFT.

3. WITHOUT FURTHER DISCUSSION TACK INTRODUCED NEW DRAFT (SEPTTEL). AFTER EXAMINING IT, SCALI TOLD TACK THAT IT SEEMED TO BE IMPROVEMENT OVER EARLIER DRAFT BUT THAT US WOULD HAVE TO STUDY IT CAREFULLY BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON.

4. THERE FOLLOWED AN INTERLUDE IN WHICH TWO SIDES EXCHANGED GENERAL COMMENTS. TACK REPORTED HE DOES NOT INTEND TO GIVE US - PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATING PAPERS OR OTHER OFFICIAL PAPERS TO SC. SCALI ACKNOWLEDGED THIS ASSURANCE WITH APPRECIATION. TACK REFERRED TO MEYER - LAKAS LETTER AS " VERY POSITIVE". HE ALSO THOUGHT THERE WAS A MOST USEFUL PARA IN SECRETARY ROGERS' 1971 REPORT TO CONGRESS. BOYD MADE PARTICULAR POINT OF SCALI' S ASSURANCE TO TORRIJOS OF US WILLINGNESS TO RESUME NEGOTS " DAY FOLLOWING END OF SC MTG" AND TACK AFFIRMED PANAMANIAN READINESS TO NEGOTIATE. SCALI DECLARED THAT HE HAD BEEN CONCERNED THAT NOTHING BE SAID OR EITHER PRIVATELY OR PUBLICLY DETRACT IN ANY WAY FROM PROSPECT FOR FRUITFUL NEGOTS ON CANAL ISSUE.

5. REVERTING TO NEW PANAMA CANAL DRAFT RES, BENNETT AND TACK EXCHANGED DIFFERING VIEWS, WHICH WERE NOT RESOLVED BUT CLEARLY REGISTERED ON BOTH SIDES. BENNETT STRESSED US NOT PREPARED TO ACCEPT SC DICTATION THAT PARTIES " EXECUTE" A NEW TREATY. FURTHER COMMENT ON TEXT WAS DESULTORY AND INCONCLUSIVE. BOYD PUT EMPHASIS ON ADDITION OF WORDS CALLING ON PARTIES TO " PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY".

6. BOYD THEN WENT ON TO RAISE OTHER PROBLEMS FACING COUNCIL. FIRST OF THESE WAS THE " DECLARATION" (PANAMA 1455). CHINESE WANTED TO CALL IT " CONSENSUS"; RUSSIANS, A " STATEMENT OF CONSENSUS"; BRITS, " COMMUNIQUE"; FRENCH, " DECLARATION OF PRESIDENT"; BOYD HIMSELF WOULD PREFER " RESUME". BOYD WENT ON TO ASK FOR OUR SUGGESTIONS DRAFT NOW CIRCULATING AND SCALI EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE WAITING FOR INSTRUCTIONS BUT THAT AS PRELIMINARY COMMENT HE COULD SAY THAT LANGUAGE PERTAINING TO CUBA WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO US.

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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